ब्लाक प्रस्तावित किया है, जिसमें सौराष्ट्र क्षेत्र का भाग सम्मिलित है। लेकिन इस ब्लाक के लिए कोई बोली प्राप्त नहीं हुई है।

(ग) से (ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(च) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Anti-India Propaganda by Pakistan

2470. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the fora in which Pakistan indulged in Anti-India propaganda during the last six months, forum-wise; and

(b) the measures taken by Government to counter such anti-India propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) In the past six months Pakistan has indulged in Anti-India propaganda particularly on the Kashmir issue, at various fora including the United Nations General Assembly, the World Summit on Social Development, World Conference on Women, the 11th NAM Summit at Cartegena (Colombia) and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetirg.

(b) The Indian representatives in their statements apprised the international community about the false and malicious nature of Pakistan's statements and the true facts of the situation including Pakistan's support to terrorism in India including in Jammu and Kashmir.

Violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980

2471. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 in allowing construction of VIP complex at Gangtok;

(b) whether clearance was given for the felling of over 1500 trees planted there; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government propose to take in the matter keeping in view the fragile eco-system of the Himalayan zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) A detailed report has been sought from the State Government of Sikkim. Reply is awaited.

Opening of Regional Passport Offices in Punjab

2472. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are proposed by Government for opening more regional passport offices in the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for not providing the necessary passports to the applicants within a short period in the State; and

(d) the necessary action which is being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) There is already a full fledged Passport Office in Punjab at Jalandhar. Besides, Regional Passport Office, Chandigarh also caters to the needs of applicant from 9 districts of the State of Punjab. A